



October 15, 2019

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq.  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Section 63.71 Application of TDS Metrocom, LLC**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Enclosed is a Section 63.71 discontinuance application of TDS Metrocom, LLC (FRN: 3767639).

The application seeks Commission approval for the discontinuance of retail voice, data and video services that are branded Merrimac Communications to 358 residential customers in the Baraboo, Merrimac, Portage, Sauk City and Witwen, Wisconsin market areas. The discontinuance will occur on December 15, 2019. TDS Metrocom acquired substantially all of the assets of Merrimac Communications<sup>1</sup>, including its retail customers and cable franchise. TDS Metrocom has permission to use the Merrimac Communications name until all customers are removed from the legacy network.

Please direct questions concerning this filing to me at the contact information below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer R. Heise". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer R. Heise  
Manager Regulatory Compliance  
TDS Metrocom, LLC  
525 Junction Road  
Madison, WI 53717  
(608) 664-4148  
jennifer.heise@tdstelecom.com

Enclosure

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<sup>1</sup> Domestic Section 214 Authorization Granted for the Acquisition of Assets of Merrimac Communications, Ltd. By TDS Metrocom, LLC, Public Notice DA 18-60, WC Docket No. 17-343 (WCB Jan. 22, 2018).

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of )  
Section 63.71 Application of )  
**TDS Metrocom, LLC** )  
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of )  
the Communications Act of 1934, )  
To Discontinue Services )

WC Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF  
TDS METROCOM, LLC**

TDS Metrocom, LLC ("Applicant") seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §214(a) and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its provision of all Voice, Data and Video services to 358 residential customers at various addresses in the Baraboo, Merrimac, Portage, Sauk City and Witwen, Wisconsin Market Areas. This action is a result of TDS Metrocom building a new fiber-optic network in the area in order to offer improved services and decommissioning Merrimac's legacy network. The Applicant provides the following information pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules:

1. Name and Address of the Carrier: TDS Metrocom, LLC, 525 Junction Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53717.
2. Date of Planned Service Discontinuance: Applicant plans to discontinue the affected services on December 15, 2019.
3. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected: Applicant proposes to discontinue the affected services to certain customers in the Baraboo, Merrimac, Portage, Sauk City and Witwen, Wisconsin Market Areas. Services provided to these existing residential customers will be discontinued and services will no longer be offered to new customers from Merrimac's legacy network following the proposed discontinuance.
4. Description of Service Affected: The services to be affected are all voice, data and video services.
5. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers: Applicant mailed a written notification of the planned discontinuance to the impacted customers utilizing the services in accordance with Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules. Customer notifications were

mailed via first-class U.S. Postal mail on October 11, 2019. Copies of the notifications are attached to this application.

6. Regulatory Classification of Carrier: Applicant is considered non-dominant with respect to the services to be discontinued.

7. Other Information: In accordance with Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules, a copy of this application is being mailed concurrently with its filing to the Governor of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission and the Special Assistant for Telecommunications to the Secretary of Defense. Please direct questions regarding this application to the undersigned.

8. Circumstances of Discontinuance: The Affected Services are provided to the customer's locations via a legacy network being decommissioned. TDS Metrocom has built a new fiber-optic network in the area in order to offer improved services. TDS Metrocom will assist the affected customers in migrating their services to TDS Metrocom's new network. Alternatively, each affected customer will have sufficient time to make arrangements to obtain service from another service provider.

Conclusion: The public convenience and necessity will not be adversely affected by the discontinuance of the services described herein. Advance notice has been provided to all affected customers, giving them ample time to subscribe to alternative services available from TDS Metrocom and/or arrange for substitute services readily available from other providers. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Section 63.71 application.<sup>2</sup>

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer R. Heise  
Regulatory Compliance Manager  
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525 Junction Road  
Madison, WI 53717  
(608)664-4148  
[jennifer.heise@tdstelecom.com](mailto:jennifer.heise@tdstelecom.com)

October 15, 2019

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<sup>2</sup> This Application does not fall within the scope of 47 C.F.R. §63.71(a)(6).

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Jennifer R. Heise, do hereby certify that on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Section 63.71 Application of TDS Metrocom, LLC via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Secretary of Defense  
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications  
The Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Office of the Governor  
Madison Office  
115 East, State Capital  
Madison, WI 53702

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer R. Heise". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer R. Heise



October 11, 2019

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], WI 53578

**ACTION REQUIRED: ACT NOW  
OR LOSE INTERNET, PHONE,  
AND TV SERVICE DEC. 15, 2019!**

Hello,

TDS Metrocom, LLC acquired all of the telecommunications assets of Merrimac Communications, effective January 22, 2018\*. All of the services including phone, TV, and Internet that you are currently receiving from Merrimac network will be discontinued effective Dec 15, 2019.

The areas impacted by the Merrimac Communications service discontinuance are: Baraboo, Merrimac, Portage, Sauk City, and Witwen, Wisconsin.

TDS has been busy building a new fiber-optic network in your area in order to offer improved Internet, phone, and TV service. You can switch to the fast, reliable TDS fiber-optic network, but time is running out!

**Here's how you can benefit from TDS Fiber:**

- Robust bandwidth to handle your needs today, and into the future
- Choose services that are right for your household from our Single, Double or Triple Play options
- Crystal-clear phone service

Please call a TDS Customer Service advisor at **1-855-299-9950** today. They will start the process of bringing TDS services to your home.

The TDS Team

**PS: Call a TDS Customer Service advisor at 1-855-299-9950 today to avoid losing service on Dec 15, 2019!**

\* Domestic Section 214 Authorization Granted for the Acquisition of Assets of Merrimac Communications, Ltd. By TDS Metrocom, LLC, Public Notice DA 18-60, WC Docket No. 17-343 (WCB Jan. 22, 2018).

(over)

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of TDS Metrocom LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

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